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#4 IN A TWELVE-ISSUE LIMITED SERIES

THE ETERNALS

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Stan Lee Presents: THE ETERNALS!™

PETER B. GILLIS * SAL BUSCEMA * KEITH WILLIAMS * JOE ROSEN * GEORGE ROUSSOS * RALPH MACCHIO * JIM SHOOTER
STORY * PENCILS * INKS * LETTERS * COLORS * EDITOR * EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MASKED GODS!

SOMEWHERE IN GERMANY A GROUP OF ETERNALS FUTILELY ATTEMPT TO CONVINCE ONE OF THEIR OWN TO JOIN IN THE COMING WAR AGAINST THE MONSTROUS DEVIANTS...

"Fierce wars and faithful loves shall moralize my tale." Edmund Spenser, THE FAERIE QUEENE.

THE ANSWER, MY FELLOW ETERNALS --

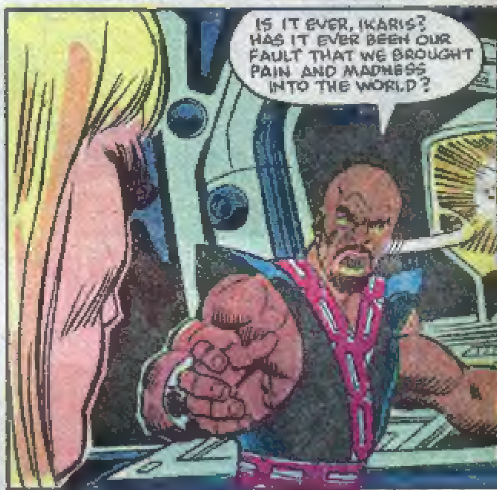
--IS NO!

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BUT, PHASTOS--OUR ENEMY, THE DEVIANTS, ARE ON THE MOVE AGAIN! WE NEED YOUR AID--JOIN YOUR POWER TO OURS TO FIGHT THEM! PLEASE, PHASTOS!


I WILL HAVE NONE OF IT, IKARIS! I DID NOT STAY BEHIND ON MOTHER EARTH WHILE MUCH OF THE REST OF OUR RACE LEFT FOR THE STARS, ONLY TO RAVAGE IT WITH MORE WAR!


YOUNG MAKKARI WILL FOLLOW YOU ANYWHERE--WHILE KINGO SUNAN STILL FANCIES HIMSELF A SAMURAI--BUT MY DREAMS AND PRETENSIONS LIE ELSEWHERE THAN IN WAR. NO.
BUT THIS WAR IS NOT OF OUR MAKING, PHASTOS!


IS IT EVER, IKARIS? HAS IT EVER BEEN OUR FAULT THAT WE BROUGHT PAIN AND MADNESS INTO THE WORLD?


HAVE WE EVER RAVAGED THE LAND, DESTROYED THE FORESTS, LAID LOW MOUNTAINS, BOILED THE OCEANS AND MADE OUR HOME A SCREAMING DESOLATION WITHOUT GOOD REASON? OF COURSE NOT!
NO!


INACTION, OR REFUSAL TO ACT, MY FRIEND, CAN JUST AS EASILY BRING ABOUT THOSE SAME RESULTS--AS YOU WELL KNOW.


NEITHER COMMITTAL NOR RESTRAINT IS GOOD IN AND OF ITSELF, BUT ONLY IN THE CONTEXT IN WHICH IT OCCURS. AND WE FEEL IT IS TIME FOR COMMITTAL.. PLEASE, PHASTOS.


GIVE ME A PROBLEM TO SOLVE, KINGO SUNEN, AND I WILL SOLVE IT. ASK ME TO SOLVE A MYSTERY-- BUILD A DEVICE-- INVENT A TECHNOLOGY-- AND I WILL DO IT! ALL THAT I WILL FREELY GIVE YOU!


BUT DO NOT ASK FOR WAR FROM ME--
--FOR I WILL FIGHT NO MORE FOR EVER!


I KNOW OF YOUR PAIN AND DESPAIR, PHASTOS-- BUT YOU SHOULDN'T LET YOUR JUDGEMENT BE CLOUDED BY YOUR SEARCH FOR--
AS YOU VALUE MY FRIENDSHIP AND FEAR MY ENMITY, IKARIS-- NOT *ONE MORE WORD.*
ALL THIS TALK-- THE MAN'S A COWARD. THAT'S ALL.


IF YOU THINK THAT, REJECT, YOU HAVE MORE TO LEARN THAN I THOUGHT... MY PUPIL.
AND YOU CAN BE THANKFUL THAT PHASTOS DID NOT HEAR YOU, OR YOU WOULD HAVE LEARNED IT VERY UNPLEASANTLY!
THE ETERNALS PASS THROUGH A BLAZING PORTAL...


...AND USE THEIR ILLUSION-CASTING ABILITIES TO APPEAR AS SIMPLE WORKMEN.
NEVER FORGET KINGO SUNEN, I AM NOT WITHOUT MY OWN FIERCENESS. I WAS RAISED BY THE DEVIANTS BEFORE LEAVING THEIR UGLY WORLD TO SEEK MY DESTINY.
PHASTOS, YOU ARE OUR GREATEST TECHNOLOGIST. SURELY YOU FEEL SOME RESPONSIBILITY--?


THIS IS THE LARGEST STEEL MILL IN THE WHOLE OF THE RUHR VALLEY IN GERMANY. AND I AM ITS CHIEF ENGINEER.


THAT IS RESPONSIBILITY ENOUGH FOR A MAN-- EVEN IF HE BE AN ETERNAL.
KURT! SIE WERDEN DEN GANZEN APPARAT VOELLIG VERNICHTEN! HOEREN SIE AUF!


ENTSCHULDIGUNG, HERR PHASTOS! WAS HABE ICH--?
UEBERLASSEN SIE MIR DIE KONTROLLE, KURT. ICH WERDE IHNEN ZEIGEN--


SO! THERE'S SOMETHING GOING ON HERE! THOSE LIGHTS WILL FLASH ONLY WHEN THERE IS A THREAT TO THE ETERNALS!
WON'T YOUR MEN SUSPECT THAT SOMETHING QUITE UN-NATURAL IS OCCURRING HERE?

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT MY MEN, IKARIS. I MENTALLY SCREEN THEM FROM ANYTHING DEALING WITH THE ETERNALS... EVEN AS I DISGUISE US WITH THESE CLOTHES. BUT LET'S SEE WHAT THIS 'ETERNAL WARNING' IS, EH?

ALTHOUGH DOMO HAS GONE INTO SPACE WITH MANY OF THE OTHER ETERNALS, HIS WARNING NETWORK IS ON AUTOMATIC ALERT.

ALSO OUR RECEIVING SYSTEMS HAVE DETERMINED THAT THIS IS NO FALSE OR ENEMY-GENERATED THREAT. IT IS REAL.

TO ALL THE ETERNALS OF EARTH, WARNING! A MASSIVE DEVIANT FLEET HAS SURFACED IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN, NORTH OF THEIR SUB-FLOOR COMMUNITY OF LEMURIA, HEADING NORTH AT RAPID SPEED!

RATHER EGOTISICAL, WASN'T IT, MAKKARI, REPLACING DOMO'S COMPUTER-GENERATED FACE WITH YOURS ON THE WARNING SYSTEM?

THE FLEET IS A FULL BATTLE ARMADA, THE LIKE OF WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SEEN SINCE THE DAYS OF THE SECOND CELESTIAL HOST! WITH OUR REDUCED NUMBERS, THIS CAN BE CONSTRUED AS A MAJOR THREAT! WARNING CONCLUDED!

SO IT HAS COME. THE OFFENSIVE I WAS DREADING EVER SINCE MOST OF OUR RACE LEFT FOR THE STARS FOLLOWING OUR ADVENTURE WITH THE AVENGERS SOME MONTHS AGO.

MY FRIENDS, WE MUST LEAVE AT ONCE-- AND PREPARE FOR BATTLE!

THEN FARE YOU WELL, IKARIS -- AND I *DO* STAND READY TO OFFER ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE YOU ASK FOR.

I FEEL, PHASTOS, THAT BEFORE LONG *ALL* OUR RESOURCES MAY BE NEEDED FOR THIS STRUGGLE!

YOU HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO YOUR POSITION, MY FRIEND. I ONLY HOPE YOU HAVE NO REASON TO *REGRET* IT IN THE FUTURE! FAREWELL!

THEY LOOK AT ME AND SEE PHASTOS THE ETERNAL SMITH, THE FORGER OF WEAPONS AND WONDERS, AND CAN'T SEE WHY I DON'T GO ALONG! IKARIS KNOWS MY STORY, AND YET IT MEANS NOTHING TO HIM!

WHY CAN'T HE SEE--AND WHY CAN'T ANYONE SEE-- THAT THERE IS ONE AND ONLY ONE THING THAT CONSUMES ME?

AND THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE THING THAT IS *WORTH* THAT OBSESSION?

IS EVERYTHING NOW IN ORDER, PHASTOS?

YES. EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER. EVERYTHING.

AND IN THE MID-PACIFIC, A FLEET DARKENS THE SEAS-- AND SKIES--FROM HORIZON TO HORIZON--A FLEET THE LIKE OF WHICH NO HUMAN HAS SEEN FOR AN AGE.

IT IS A WAR-FLEET OF MAN-KIND'S *HIDDEN BROTHERS*-- OF THE SINISTER AND TRAGIC RACE OF BEINGS CALLED THE *DEVIANTS!*

AND ON THE BRIDGE OF THE ROYAL FLAGSHIP STANDS THE NEWLY-CROWNED RULER OF ALL THE DEVIANTS OF EARTH--THE ONE-TIME *WARLORD KRO!*

AT MY COMMAND, LAUNCH ANOTHER SQUADRON OF SCOUTS! WE REACH MID-OCEAN SOON, AND MUST BE WARY!

AT ONCE, BROTHER KRO!

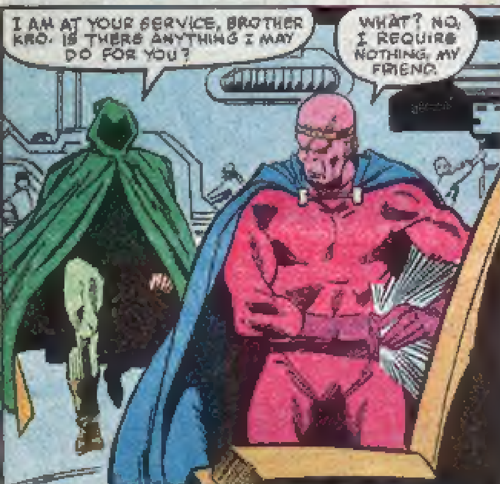
ABSOLUTE RULER--AND YET I SCURRY BLINDLY TO CARRY OUT A MISSION DECREED BY THE PRIESTHOOD... BY GHAUR. THIS CIRCLET OF AUTHORITY--TROD UNDERFOOT BY A COMMON TEMPLE GUARD* AT MY "CORONATION"-- A GESTURE OF THE PRIESTS' CONTEMPT FOR MY AUTHORITY.

NOW, AS FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, KRO SETS OUT TO DO ANOTHER'S BIDDING--BUT WHERE ARE KRO'S *OWN* VISIONS? *HIS* DREAMS?

*ISSUE #2.


"ALL I HAD PLOTTED FOR -- THE RULERSHIP OF THE DEVIANTS, AFTER ALL THESE AGES -- WAS GIVEN TO ME, BUT GIVEN TO ME IN A BATTERED, TWISTED FORM, CRUSHED BY THE TEMPLE GUARD'S FOOT IN HIS CONTEMPT. AND PRIEST-LORD GHAUR LAUGHED. *LAUGHED!*


YOU TOY WITH ME NOW, GHAUR -- BUT I AM A TOY WITH *SHARP EDGES.* I WILL FIND OUT WHAT YOUR GAME IS, AND THEN --
-- YOU WILL FIND KRO A MOST *FORMIDABLE* FOE!


I AM AT YOUR SERVICE, BROTHER KRO. IS THERE ANYTHING I MAY DO FOR YOU?
WHAT? NO. I REQUIRE NOTHING, MY FRIEND.


YOUR PARDON, LORD -- THERE MUST BE SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOUR COMMAND CHAIR. I THOUGHT I HAD BEEN SIGNALED. MAY I INSPECT IT?
OF COURSE.


AH, HERE IT IS. A FAULTY SEQUENCER. EASILY FIXED -- LIKE SO.
BY YOUR LEAVE, I AM DONE.


BY THE SPACE GODS, BUT YOU'RE A STRANGE ONE, MY FRIEND! BUT I *KNOW* WHO GHAUR'S SPIES ARE, AND YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THEM.
NO, THERE'S A DIFFERENT AIR ABOUT YOU -- DIFFERENT INDEED. YOU WILL BEAR CLOSE WATCHING!

AND ON A HIDDEN MOUNTAINTOP, IN THE SECRET CITY OF THE ETERNALS KNOWN AS OLYMPIA...

THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, THENA!

BUT IT SEEMS SO MAD, KARKAS! A DEVIANT WAR-FLEET? AND OF SUCH SIZE? WHAT COULD THEY POSSIBLY WANT TO GO TO WAR FOR-- AND WHY NOW?

PERHAPS THEY WANT TO EMERGE FROM THE DEPTHS AND RULE THE SURFACE ONCE MORE -- TAKE IT BACK FROM THE HUMANS AND ETERNALS! AND THEY MAY WELL THINK THAT WITH NEARLY ALL THE ETERNAL RACE GONE TO THE STARS, NOW IS THEIR CHANCE!

I WAS BRED BY THE DEVIANTS AS A MUTATE, MY LADY, BEFORE JOINING THE ETERNALS! I KNOW THEM. THEY MAY BE LASHING OUT FOR NO OTHER REASON THAN BITTERNESS AND SAVAGERY! THEY ARE A STRANGE PEOPLE!

BUT THEY MUST BE AFTER SOMETHING! I'VE GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

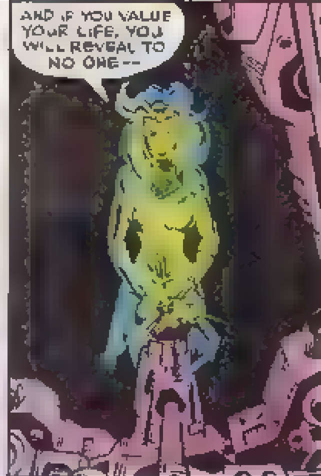
THERE IS A SIGNAL FROM ONE OF THE SHIPS--FROM ITS CENTRAL POSITION, POSSIBLY THE FLAGSHIP!

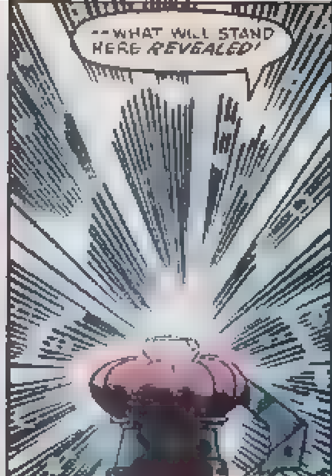
BUT IT IS CODED VERY STRANGELY, AND IT'S NON-DIRECTIONAL! WHAT CAN IT BE?

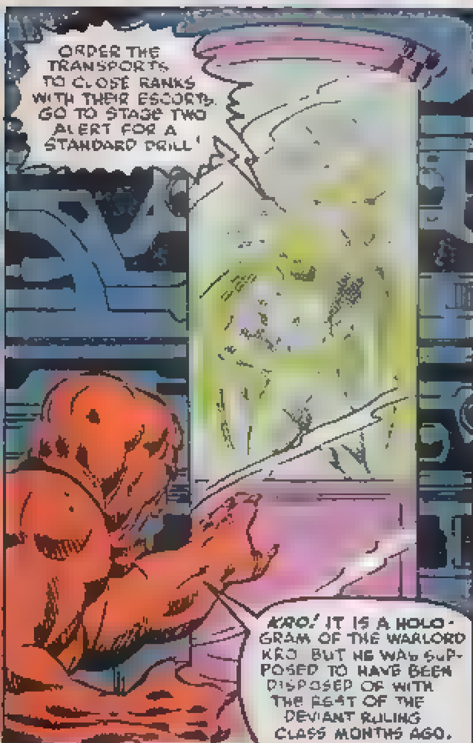
MY LADY THENA?

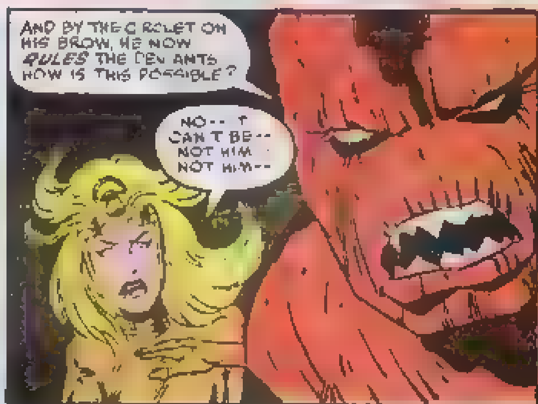
NO! THE CRYSTAL OF CONTACT -- IT CAN'T BE *HIM*--! PLEASE DON'T LET *HIM* BE IN THE MIDDLE OF ALL THIS --!

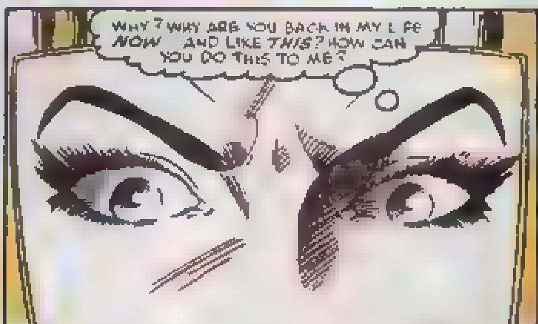

MY LADY? WHAT IS THAT?
DO NOT QUESTION ME KARKAS

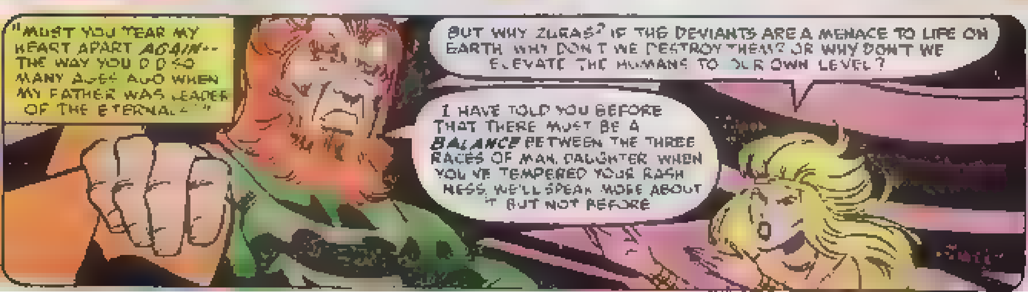

AND IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE, YOU WILL REVEAL TO NO ONE--

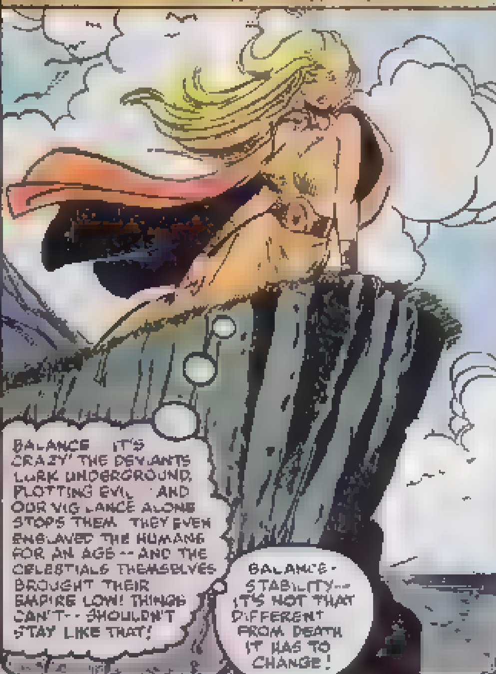

--WHAT WILL STAND HERE *REVEALED!*

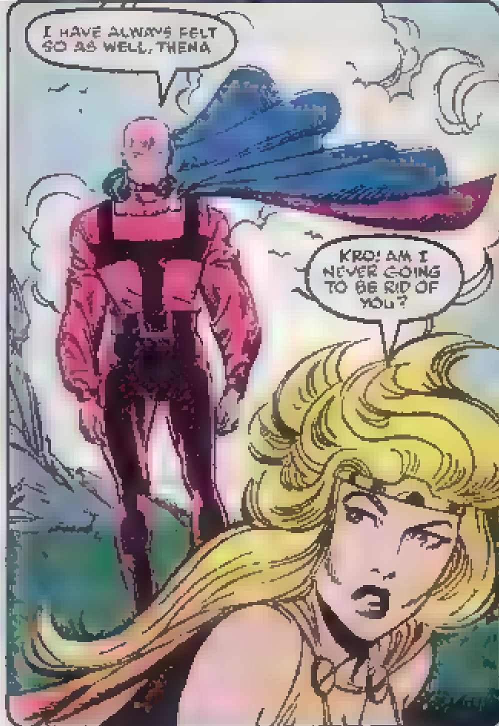

ORDER THE TRANSPORTS TO CLOSE RANKS WITH THEIR ESCORTS. GO TO STAGE TWO ALERT FOR A STANDARD DRILL!
KRO! IT IS A HOLOGRAM OF THE WARLORD KRO. BUT HE WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN DISPOSED OF WITH THE REST OF THE DEVIANT RULING CLASS MONTHS AGO.

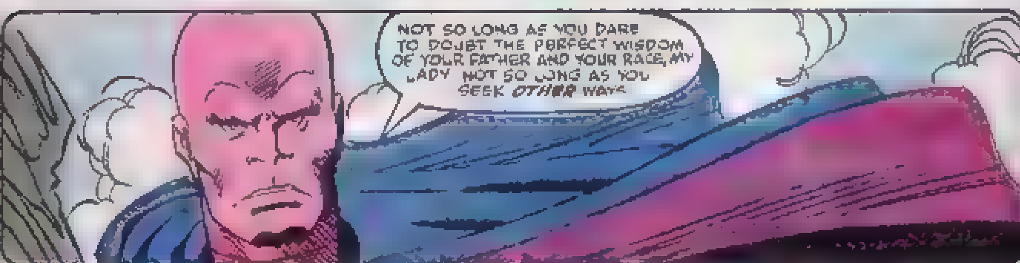

AND BY THE CIRCLET ON HIS BROW, HE NOW *RULES* THE DEVIANTS. HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?
NO-- IT CAN'T BE-- NOT HIM. NOT HIM--

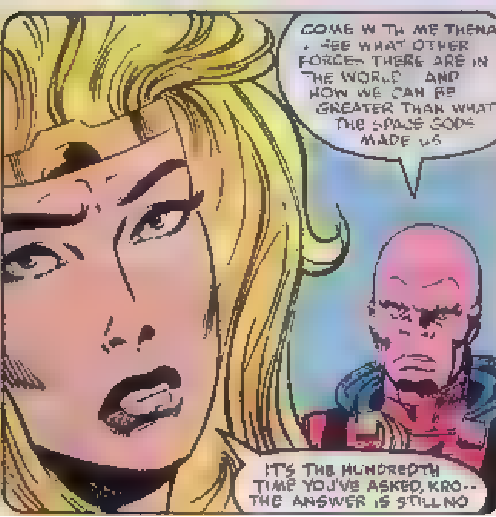

WHY? WHY ARE YOU BACK IN MY LIFE *NOW* AND LIKE *THIS?* HOW CAN YOU DO THIS TO ME?


"MUST YOU TEAR MY HEART APART *AGAIN*-- THE WAY YOU DID SO MANY AGES AGO WHEN MY FATHER WAS LEADER OF THE ETERNALS?"
BUT WHY ZURAS? IF THE DEVIANTS ARE A MENACE TO LIFE ON EARTH, WHY DON'T WE DESTROY THEM? OR WHY DON'T WE ELEVATE THE HUMANS TO OUR OWN LEVEL?
I HAVE TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT THERE MUST BE A *BALANCE* BETWEEN THE THREE RACES OF MAN, DAUGHTER. WHEN YOU'VE TEMPERED YOUR RASHNESS, WE'LL SPEAK MORE ABOUT IT. BUT NOT BEFORE.

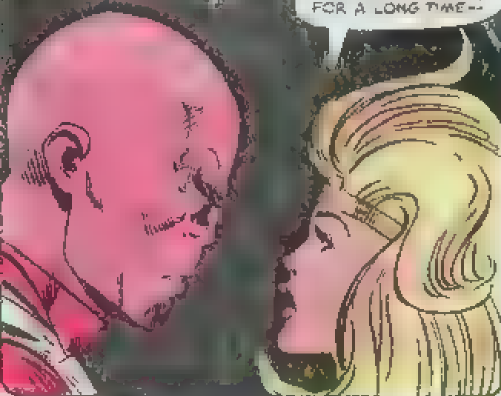

"AND I STORMED OUT OF OLYMPIA TO SIT BY THE STONY SEA CLIFFS OF GREECE, TO FRET AND FUME AND COME UP WITH ARGUMENTS AGAINST MY FATHER."
BALANCE... IT'S CRAZY! THE DEVIANTS LURK UNDERGROUND, PLOTTING EVIL... AND OUR VIGILANCE ALONE STOPS THEM. THEY EVEN ENSLAVED THE HUMANS FOR AN AGE -- AND THE CELESTIALS THEMSELVES BROUGHT THEIR EMPIRE LOW! THINGS CAN'T -- SHOULDN'T STAY LIKE THAT!
BALANCE-STABILITY-- IT'S NOT THAT DIFFERENT FROM DEATH. IT HAS TO CHANGE!


I HAVE ALWAYS FELT SO AS WELL, THENA.
KRO! AM I NEVER GOING TO BE RID OF YOU?

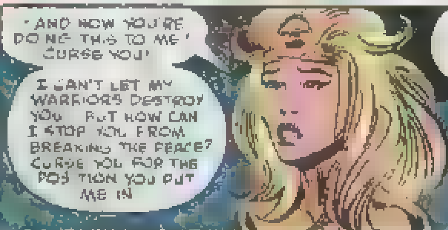

NOT SO LONG AS YOU DARE TO DOUBT THE PERFECT WISDOM OF YOUR FATHER AND YOUR RACE, MY LADY. NOT SO LONG AS YOU SEEK OTHER WAYS.


COME WITH ME THENA. SEE WHAT OTHER FORCES THERE ARE IN THE WORLD... AND HOW WE CAN BE GREATER THAN WHAT THE SPACE GODS MADE US.
IT'S THE HUNDREDTH TIME YOU'VE ASKED, KRO-- THE ANSWER IS STILL NO.


YOU KNOW ME, DAUGHTER OF ZURAS-- AM I AS VILE OR MEAN AS THE ETERNALS HAVE TAUGHT YOU THAT DEVIANTS MUST BE?
OF COURSE NOT, KRO. OF COURSE NOT.


AND YET I'M EVERYTHING YOU DO NOT KNOW. I'M THE VAST UNKNOWN AT THE HEART OF THIS WORLD. WILL YOU STILL REFUSE TO LOOK?
I'M LOOKING-- I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR A LONG TIME--


--OH, KRO--
AND NOW AND NOW


"AND NOW YOU'RE DOING THIS TO ME! CURSE YOU!
I CAN'T LET MY WARRIORS DESTROY YOU-- BUT HOW CAN I STOP YOU FROM BREAKING THE PEACE? CURSE YOU FOR THE POSITION YOU PUT ME IN

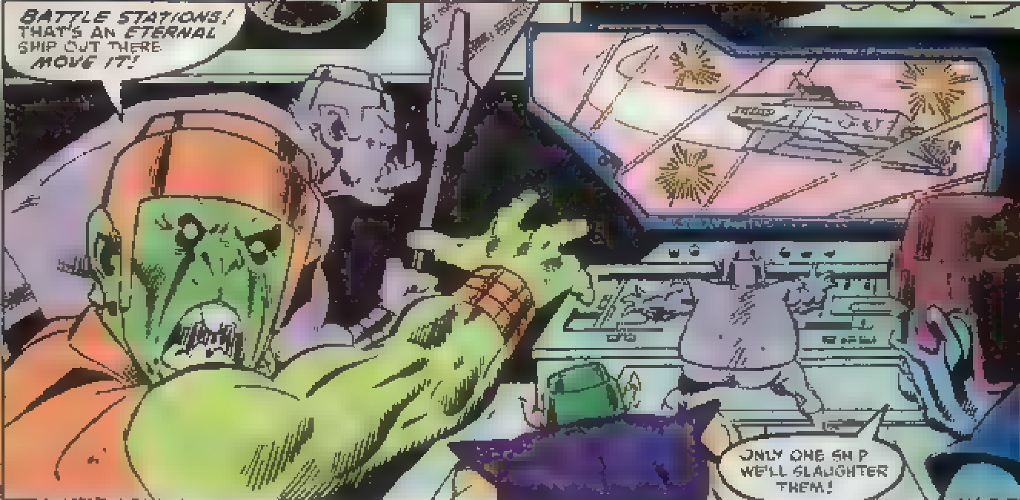

I DON'T UNDERSTAND, MY LADY-- KRO IS ONLY ACTING THE WAY HE'S ALWAYS DONE!
I'M ONLY GLAD IKARIS AND MAKKARI AND THE OTHERS ARE MOVING TO THE ATTACK. KRO IS BRILLIANT AND VERY DANGEROUS

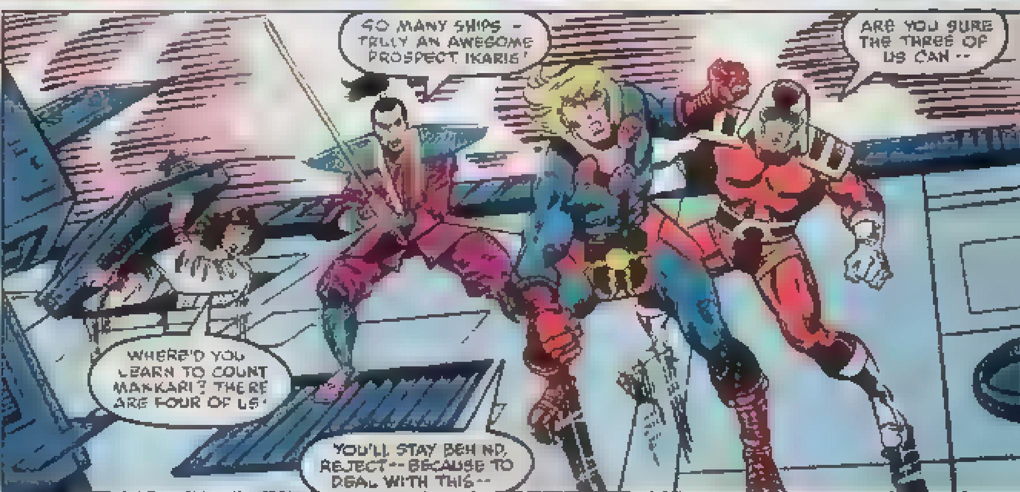

KARKAS, YOU WILL DO EXACTLY AS I SAY...GO AND PREPARE THE ALPHA CRAFT FOR LAUNCH.
MY LADY, I WAS TOLD THE ALPHA CRAFT WAS NOT TO BE USED EXCEPT IN THE MOST DIRE OF EMERGENCIES
KRONOS ZURAS FATHER HIMSELF FORBADE ITS USE BECAUSE OF THE CRAFT'S AWESOME DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIAL

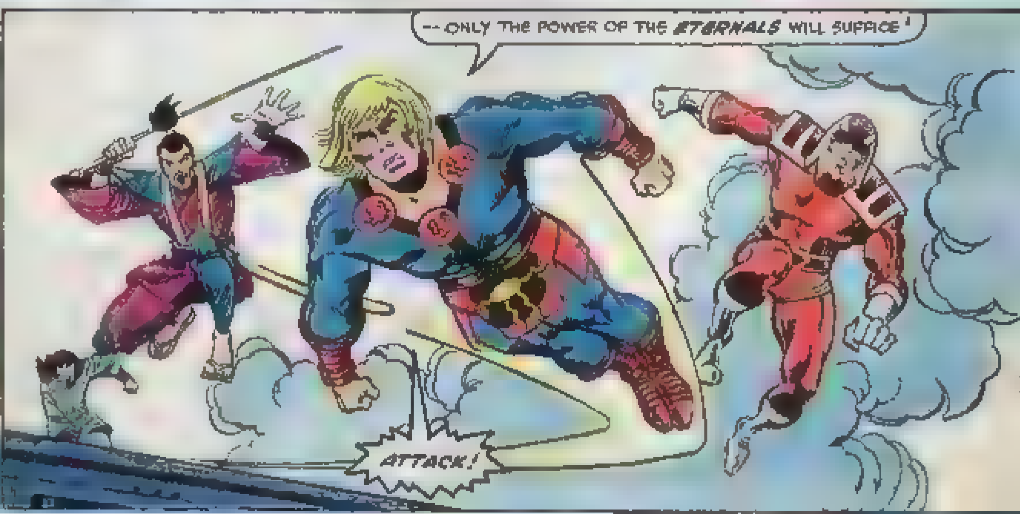

BUT I AM RULER OF ALL THE ETERNALS NOW MUTATE, AND IT IS FULLY WITHIN MY POWER TO AUTHORIZE THE ACTIVATION OF THE ALPHA CRAFT!
AND IF YOU WANT TO AVOID YOUR INTESTINES BEING ARRANGED OUTSIDE YOUR BODY YOU'LL OBEY MY COMMANDS.

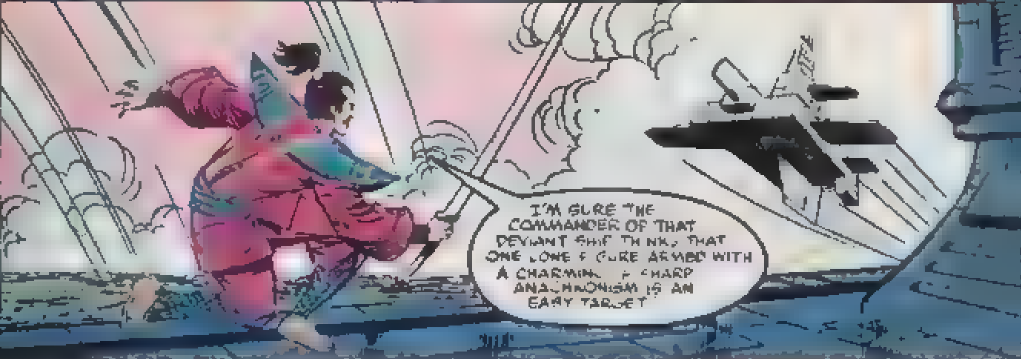

VERY WELL, MY LADY-- ALPHA CRAFT PREPARATION INITIATED. ENERGIZING SEQUENCE BEGINS IN TEN MINUTES

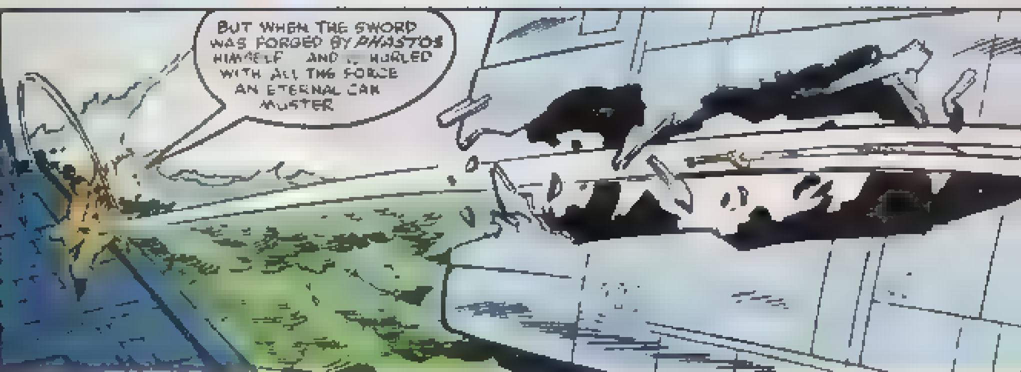
AND, ABOARD THE DEVIANT FLAGSHIP...
WHAT IS IT SENTINEL?
A SINGLE MASSIVE ENERGY SOURCE APPROACHING THE FLEET, BROTHER KRO!
ACCELERATING--! IT CAN'T BE ANYTHING ELSE--IT HAS TO BE *THEM!*
IT'S A DES GN I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
THEY MUST HAVE CONSTRUCTED IT FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF DESTROYING THE DEVIANT FLEET
SOUND THE ALERT--WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
KWHOOOOM!


BATTLE STATIONS! THAT'S AN ETERNAL SHIP OUT THERE. MOVE IT!
ONLY ONE SHIP WE'LL SLAUGHTER THEM!

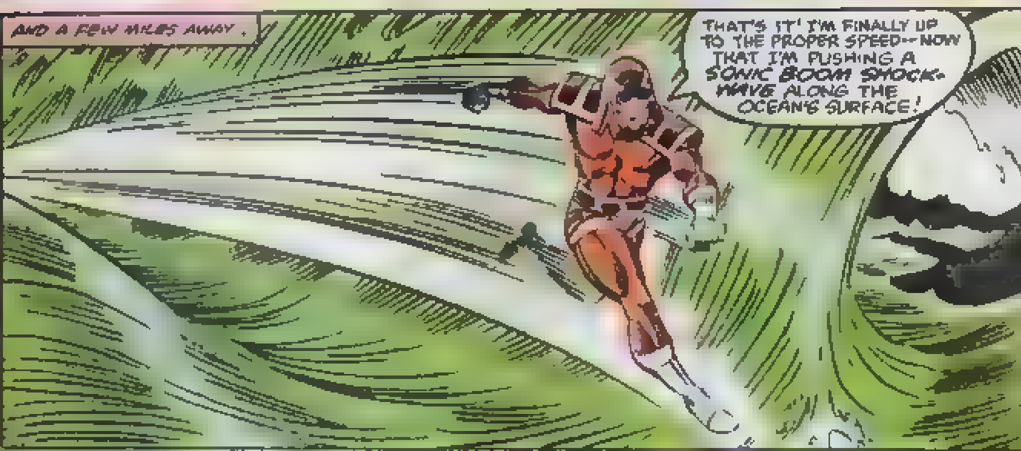

SO MANY SHIPS -- TRULY AN AWESOME PROSPECT, IKARIS!
ARE YOU SURE THE THREE OF US CAN --
WHERE'D YOU LEARN TO COUNT, MAKKARI? THERE ARE FOUR OF US!
YOU'LL STAY BEHIND, REJECT -- BECAUSE TO DEAL WITH THIS --

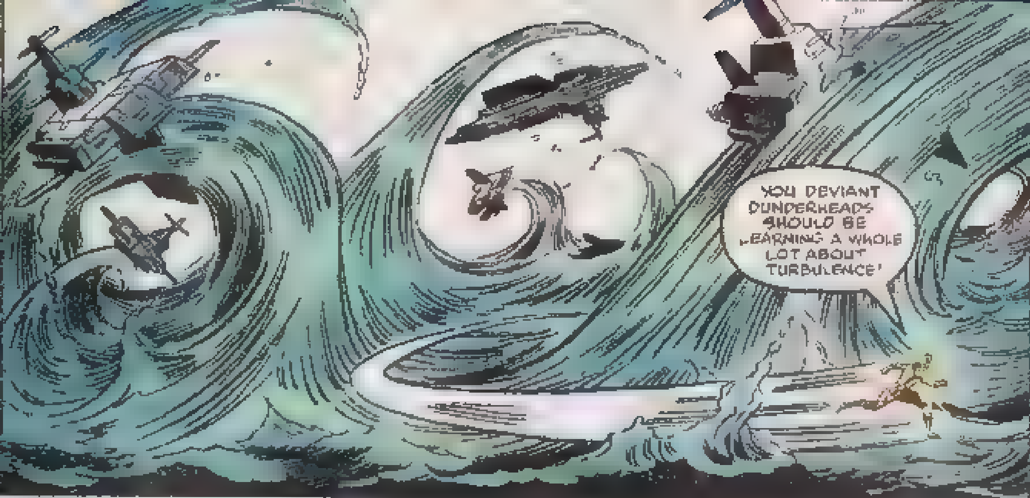

-- ONLY THE POWER OF THE ETERNALS WILL SUFFICE!
ATTACK!


I'M SURE THE COMMANDER OF THAT DEVIANT SHIP THINKS THAT ONE LONE FIGURE ARMED WITH A CHARMING SHARP ANACHRONISM IS AN EASY TARGET


BUT WHEN THE SWORD WAS FORGED BY *PHASTOS* HIMSELF AND HURLED WITH ALL THE FORCE AN ETERNAL CAN MUSTER

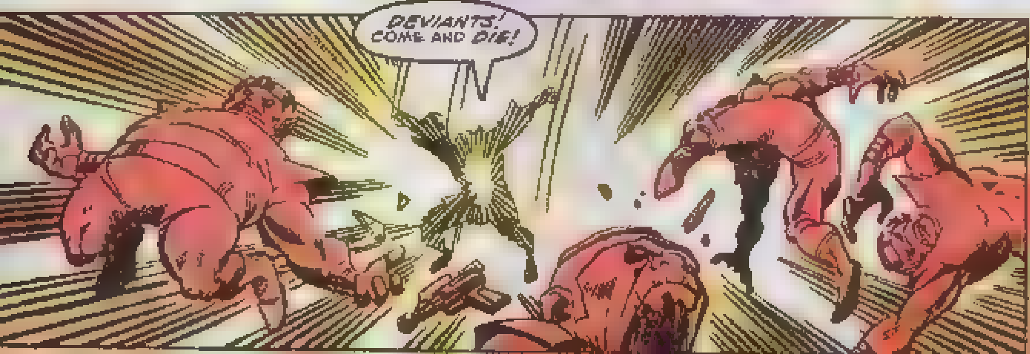

HE'LL LEARN WHY THREE ETERNALS WILL PROBABLY BE ENOUGH!

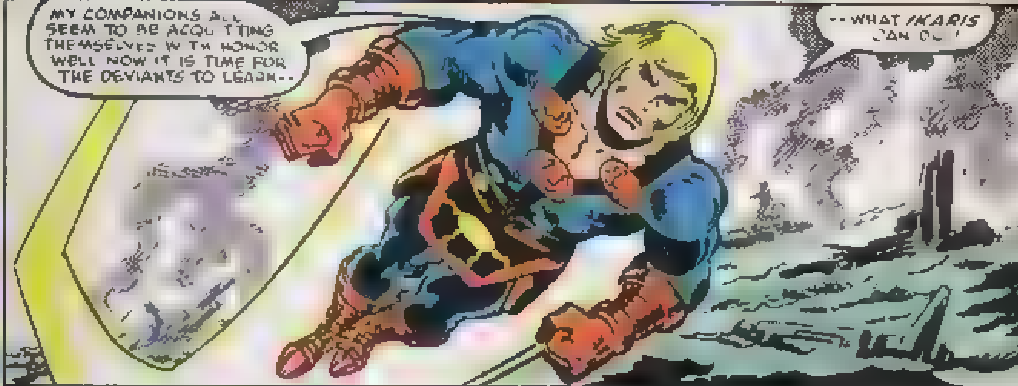

AND A FEW MILES AWAY...
THAT'S IT! I'M FINALLY UP TO THE PROPER SPEED-- NOW THAT I'M PUSHING A *SONIC BOOM SHOCK-WAVE* ALONG THE OCEAN'S SURFACE!

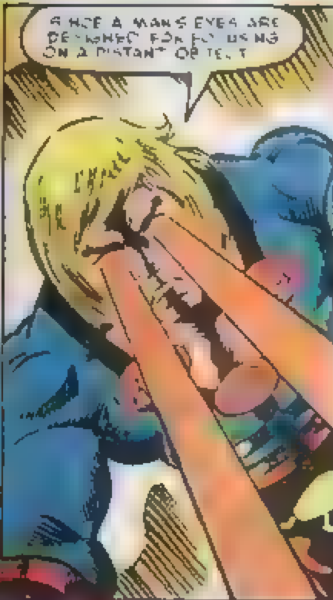

YOU DEVIANT DUNDERHEADS SHOULD BE LEARNING A WHOLE LOT ABOUT TURBULENCE!


I MAY NOT HAVE THE POWER OF AN ETERNAL, BUT NOTHING IS KEEPING ME OUT OF THIS FIGHT!
THE DEVIANTS REARED ME IN THEIR MUTATE SLAVE PENS-- MADE ME INTO A KILLING MACHINE!

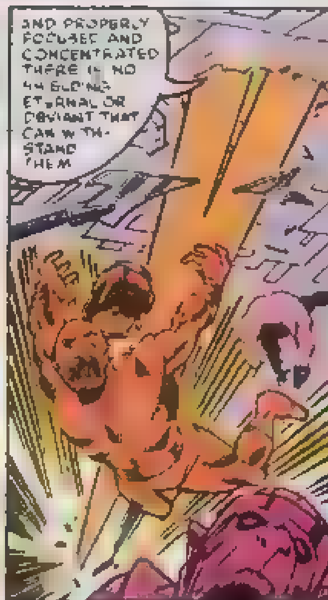

AND SUCH GENEROSITY ON THEIR PART DESERVES TO BE REWARDED
MOVE IT YOU GOLD-BRICKS! HUSTLE! HUSTLE
ANOTHER ONE! GET HIM!


DEVIANTS! COME AND DIE!


MY COMPANIONS ALL SEEM TO BE ACQUITTING THEMSELVES WITH HONOR. WELL NOW IT IS TIME FOR THE DEVIANTS TO LEARN--
--WHAT IKARIS CAN DO!

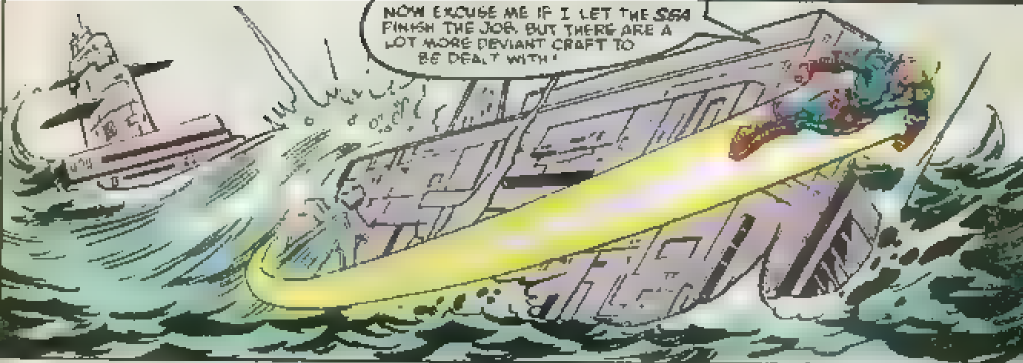

SINCE A MAN'S EYES ARE DESIGNED FOR FOCUSING ON A DISTANT OBJECT


THEY ALSO PROVE THE BEST AVENUES FOR FOCUSING THE TITANIC ENERGIES THAT AN ETERNAL'S BODY CONTAINS!


AND PROPERLY FOCUSED AND CONCENTRATED THERE IS NO
ETERNAL OR DEVIANT THAT CAN WITHSTAND THEM

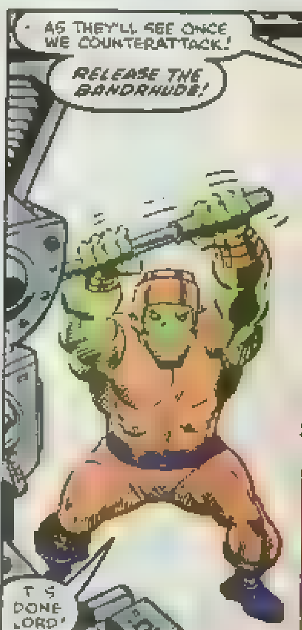

FURTHERMORE ONCE THE INTEGRITY OF THE SHIP'S ARMOR HAS BEEN BREACHED THERE'S NOTHING TO PREVENT ONE--

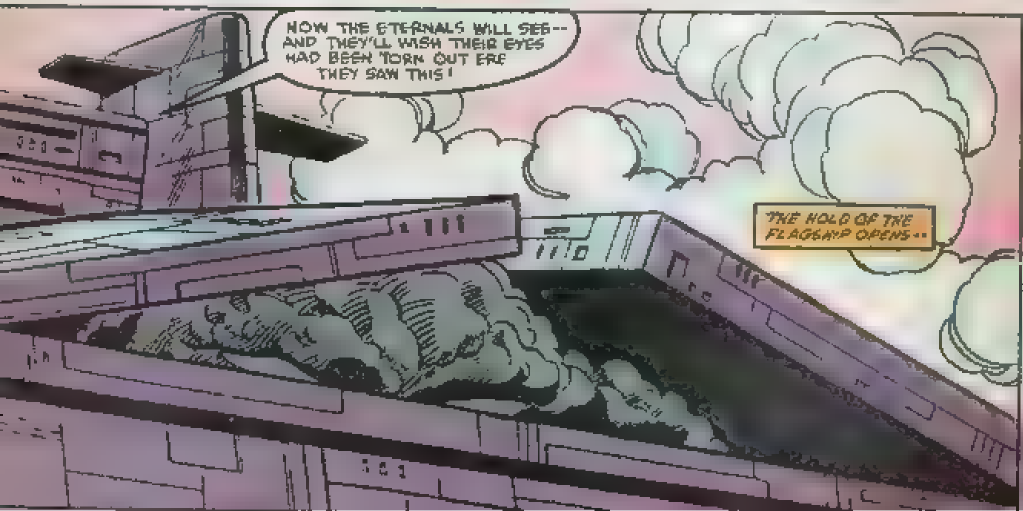

--FROM THE MORE SATISFYING PURSUIT OF TEARING THE SHIP TO PIECES!


NOW EXCUSE ME IF I LET THE SEA FINISH THE JOB, BUT THERE ARE A LOT MORE DEVIANT CRAFT TO BE DEALT WITH!


BROTHER KRO, THERE ARE ONLY FOUR FIGURES, BUT THEY ARE DECIMATING OUR FLEET! IT
S BEYOND BELIEF!
YOUR
WRETCH, BUT
BEYOND MINE!


DID YOU THINK THE RACE OF DEVIANTS COWERED IN THEIR WARRENS OUT OF SIMPLE INSECURITY? THE MIGHT OF AN ETERNAL IS NEARLY IMMEASURABLE!
BUT MIGHT ALONE DOESN'T WIN BATTLES--


AS THEY'LL SEE ONCE WE COUNTERATTACK!
RELEASE THE BANDRHUDE!
DONE, LORD!


NOW THE ETERNALS WILL SEE-- AND THEY'LL WISH THEIR EYES HAD BEEN TORN OUT ERE THEY SAW THIS!
THE HOLD OF THE FLAGSHIP OPENS--


--AND THE RANDAHUDE RISES
IT CAN'T BE! THE DEVIANT SCIENCE FOR CREATE NO SUCH MONSTROSITIES PERISHED WITH THE FALL OF OLD LEMURIA HOW COULD THEY HAVE MADE A MIND SIREN NOW?

THE HUGE HULK SHIVERS, BEGINS TO VIBRATE--THROB--

--AND ITS EYES SWEEP THE PANORAMA BEFORE IT--

--AND IT SINGS TO THOSE IT FINDS WORTHY OF ITS SONG--!

STOP! STOP!

PLEEEASE--!

SUDDENLY IKARIS IS IN THE BATTLE NO LONGER --BUT STANDING ON A PROMONTORY WATCHING THE WAVES OF THE AEGEAN SEA LAP QUIETLY...

...THE SEA THAT TOOK SO MUCH FROM HIM--!

I DID WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE RIGHT--I PROTECTED THE WORLD AND ITS PEOPLES--I WAS ALWAYS THERE TO FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT!

AND SO I WAS NOT THERE TO SAVE YOU. I WAS NOT THERE WHEN YOU NEEDED ME. I LET YOU DIE. I LET YOU DIE--AND MY HEART HAS DIED WITH YOU.

I KNOW THE WORLD MUST BE PROTECTED--

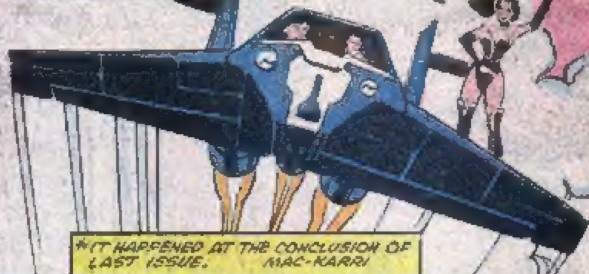
--BUT NOT AT THIS PRICE! NOT AT THE PRICE OF LOVE!

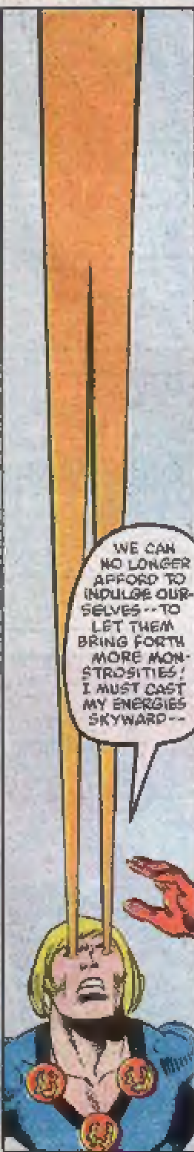
HEAR ME, SPACE GODS! I WILL NOT FIGHT AT THE COST OF LOVE! I WILL NOT--

--FIGHT--!

WHAT--I'M BACK--THE THING TRAPPED ME IN MY MEMORY!


BUT HOW WAS I FREED? SERSI! SO ANOTHER OF THE ETERNALS HAS COME TO JOIN US IN BATTLE. YOU MUST HAVE USED YOUR TELEPATHIC ABILITIES TO FREE ME!


YEP. NOW DON'T WORRY, KIDDO! I COULDN'T RESIST COMING AFTER YOU ALERTED ME TO THE THREAT AT MY PARTY,* AND SERSI IS MORE THAN A MATCH FOR ANY ILLUSION-MAKER! NOW GO GET 'EM!
*IT HAPPENED AT THE CONCLUSION OF LAST ISSUE. MAC-KARRI


WE CAN NO LONGER AFFORD TO INDULGE OURSELVES--TO LET THEM BRING FORTH MORE MONSTROSITIES! I MUST CAST MY ENERGIES SKYWARD--

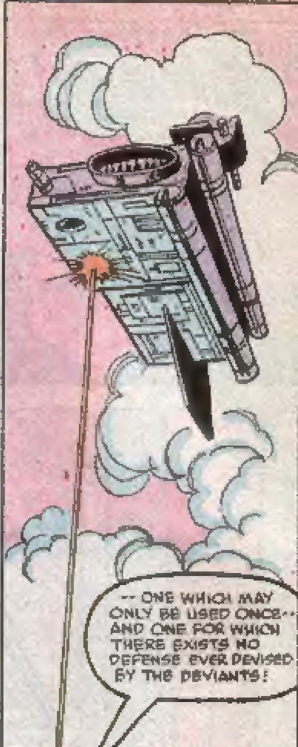

--TO LET OUR WARSHIP FULFILL THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT WAS BUILT!
ENERGIES FAR GREATER THAN A SINGLE WEAKENED ETERNAL'S SHALL BE BROUGHT TO BEAR...

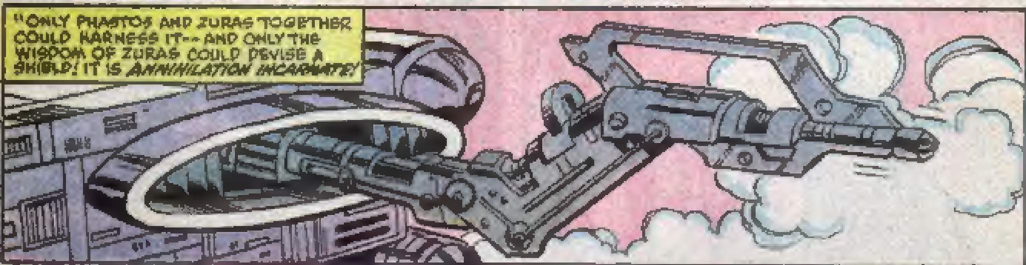

...ENERGIES THAT WILL ERADICATE THE ENTIRE DEVIANT FLEET!

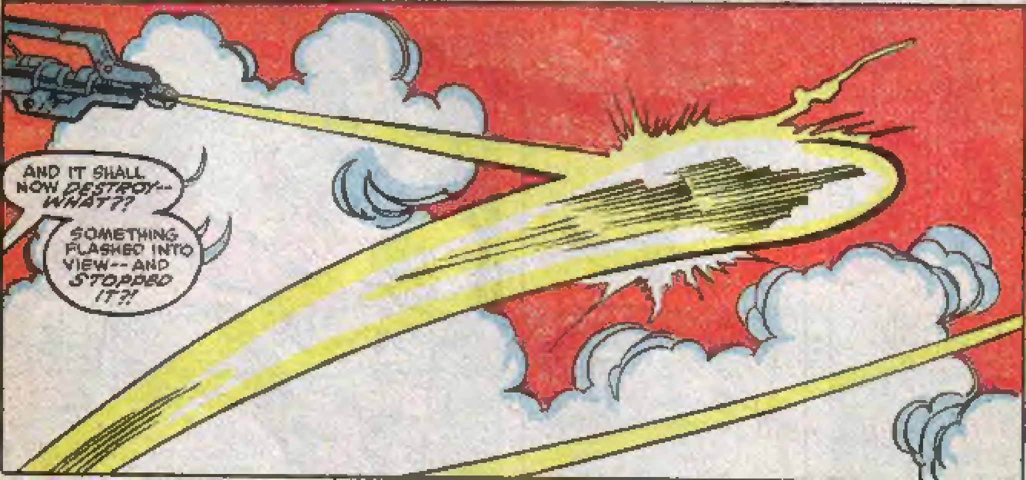

FLOTILLAS SEVEN THROUGH FIFTY DO NOT RESPOND, LORD!
GIVE THE ORDER--HAVE THE MAIN DREADNOUGHTS, THE MOST HEAVILY SHIELDED, TAKE TO THE AIR! PREPARE FOR WITHDRAWAL!


THE DREADNOUGHTS ARE RISING! THOSE SHIPS COULD RIDE OUT A THERMO-NUCLEAR EXPLOSION-- EVEN THE WARSHIP'S ENHANCED BEAMS MAY NOT DESTROY THEM!

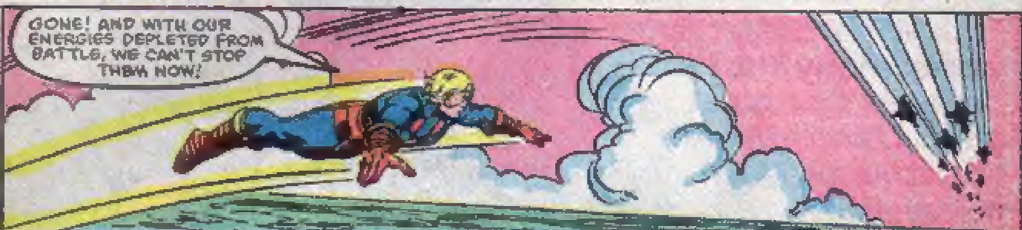

BUT THIS TIME NONE OF THE DEVI-ANT FORCES WILL REMAIN! THE SHIP HAS ONE MORE CAPABILITY--


-- ONE WHICH MAY ONLY BE USED ONCE-- AND ONE FOR WHICH THERE EXISTS NO DEFENSE EVER DEVISED BY THE DEVIANTS!

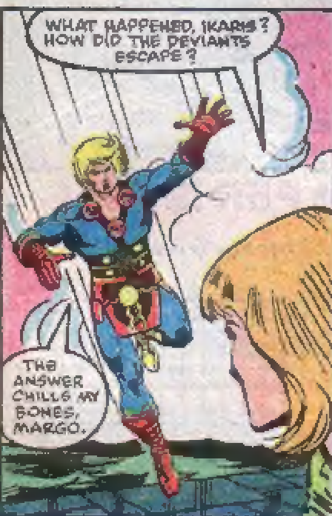

"ONLY PHASTOS AND ZURAS TOGETHER COULD HARNESS IT-- AND ONLY THE WISDOM OF ZURAS COULD DEVISE A SHIELD! IT IS ANNIHILATION INCARNATE!


AND IT SHALL NOW DESTROY-- WHAT??
SOMETHING FLASHED INTO VIEW-- AND STOPPED IT?!













NEXT ISSUE: THE SECRET IN THE NORTH! AND A WHOLE LOT MORE! *BE HERE!*